

Russian lines will consist in holding Koluszki, fifteen miles from Lodz, and the junction point for the railroad line from Warsaw to Czenstochowa. Military experts here are inclined to believe that the Germans never occupied all of Lodz and that the Russians, holding part of the city, had the alternative of taking their main effort there or of withdrawing to the more advantageous positions, of which Koluszki is an important point. There is no attempt to minimize the German success, but the lack of details from Berlin is thought to be proof that the occupation of Lodz was not complete, at least at the time of the announcement on Sunday.

In the matter of reinforcements the Russians have the advantage. It is reported from Petrograd that all available German forces were engaged in the successful advance on Lodz and that for the immediate future the German Generals will have to depend on the rapid shifting of their men to points in the line where the pressure becomes heavier. On the other hand, there is a large force in reserve near Warsaw and it is expected that the Grand Duke Nicholas will have these men ready to move up to the line of battle within a very short time.

A despatch from Petrograd asserts that the Germans transferred six army corps and five cavalry divisions from the western front to Poland and that they are to seize the advantage of superior forces at a particular point. Whatever the number of the reinforcements it is certain that the Germans outnumbered the Russians, who evidently did not expect the opposition of such a large force and who apparently thought that the men they had at Lodz were sufficient for an attack that might be directed against the city.

Disappointment rather than real alarm is said to be the feeling in Russian army circles over the reverse at Lodz. When the Russian line of steel failed to materialize it was still believed that the Germans would have to bend all their energies to escaping intact, but instead they started a desperate and unexpected offensive at the psychological moment and won a partial victory at least. The Germans are no nearer to Warsaw than they were in October, and the Russian General Staff is not expected to be surprised by the capture of Lodz and the Russian losses in dead and wounded were huge. Great enthusiasm has been aroused in Berlin by the official report of the capture of the city, and many houses have been decorated with German and Austrian flags. A wireless despatch from Berlin today says that the War Office there issued the following statement:

East and southeast of Lodz we are closely pursuing the enemy. In addition to the large losses reported yesterday the Russians have lost 1,500 prisoners and 15 cannon.

No special reports have been received from East Prussia. In southern Poland nothing of importance has transpired.

#### TO EVACUATE LODZ.

**Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.**  
LONDON, Dec. 8.—Petrograd despatch to the Daily Mail says: "Two facts are brought more clearly to light in the long account of the battle of Lodz and the subsequent events which were issued from headquarters to-day. One is the increased strength of the German army in Poland and the other the calmness of the Russian Staff."

The correspondent then gives a description of the stages of the battle, exactly as telegraphed to THE SUN on November 29, after the Germans had succeeded in fighting their way out of the "mouse trap." He continues:

"It was of course, however, the Germans who suffered very little by their escape except a spectacular victory."

"If, as the General Staff estimates," says the correspondent, "the reinforcements amounted to six army corps and five cavalry divisions, altogether about 300,000 men, it is small wonder that they were able with the assistance of their strategic railways to concentrate in certain points in larger numbers than the Russians, and there is no reason to be surprised that they almost enveloped the Russian flank. On the contrary, one must admire the Russian tactics, which avoided the tables so skillfully, not only avoiding disaster, but inflicting on the enemy losses of 100,000 in killed and captured."

"Now that the ability of Russian generalship has again been put to the test it is obvious that while Lodz was of the utmost importance to the Russians when the Germans were east of it, the place since then has had no strategic or tactical value. Then it formed one of the walls of the trap, now it causes a bulge on the Russian front which is inconvenient. It would, therefore, be surprising if Lodz is evacuated entirely and the Russian front given a normal and more effective form."

A paragraph in the General Staff despatch clearly points out that position of the Russian armies will now take up. "I am not permitted to say what this is, but any one studying the map and observing the rivers and other features will have little difficulty in making a guess."

"Thus the battle of Lodz ends and a new battle begins. In this the Germans will draw further from the railways which gave them their initial success and further into a hostile country, which they have taken over. The Russian troops will take up fresh positions in a better situation."

#### AUSTRIANS REINFORCED.

**30,000 Bavarians Join Forces in Servia.**

**Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.**  
LONDON, Dec. 8.—It is stated from a semi-official Servian source in London that the Austrians in Servia have been reinforced by troops from the Italian frontier and 30,000 Bavarians and a great battle is at hand.

The Servians have every reason to feel confidence in the result, as the mountainous country and the river limits, to which they are turned, are in their favor and the railways are intact behind them, while the Austrians are away from their base and their line of communications is lengthening.

A despatch received from Petrograd last night contradicted the foregoing. It said that since the receipt of the report the Austrians have left in Servia a few corps to meet eventualities, but have withdrawn five corps, which have been sent to oppose the Russian advance on the Carpathians and thus rescue Czenstochowa.

#### RUSSIANS DENY DEFEAT.

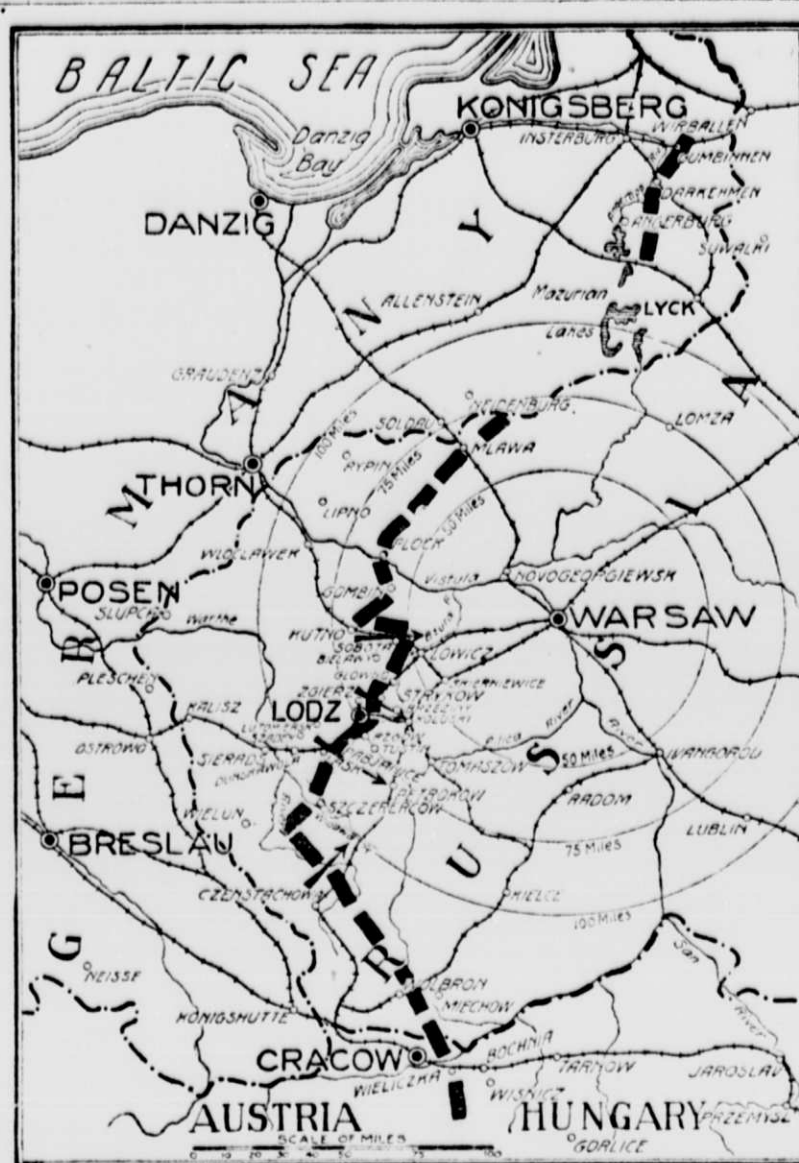
**Occupation of Lodz Not German Success, Says Correspondent.**

**By Central News.**  
ROME, Dec. 8.—A Petrograd despatch to the Messagero says the bombardment of Lodz, although it was successful, is not a German success, as the occupation of Lodz does not represent a German success, as they were driven toward that city by the Russian offensive.

#### SHOT 41 TIMES, BACK AT FRONT.

**Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.**  
PARIS, Dec. 8.—A Territorial soldier named Bazel, who received forty-one bullet wounds in his left leg on August 25, has recovered and returned to the front.

No bone was touched by the bullets.



THE German announcement of the capture of Lodz has been confirmed by a Russian statement that the evacuation of the city had become advisable for strategic reasons. The line of the Russian troops back about ten miles to a point just west of Koluszki, an important railway junction on the main line between Czenstochowa and Warsaw, where the Russian army also has the advantage of superior forces.

The arrows in the accompanying map show the objective points of the German offensive, as revealed in the operations thus far. With the exception of the capture of Lodz, there has been no important change in the battle line in Poland for several days.

## Says Germans Paid Dearly for Their Success at Lodz

**Czar's General Staff, in Review of Operations, Declares  
Foe Suffered "Unheard of Losses"—Reinforcements  
Enabled Invaders to Penetrate Russian Front.**

PETROGRAD, Dec. 8.—Military developments on the left bank of the Vistula during a period comprising two weeks in the latter part of November and early in the present month are described in the following official report issued by the Russian General Staff to-day:

Toward the end of October Russian troops pursuing certain Austrian and German forces which were retreating in a southerly direction reached a line stretching from the River Warta to the River Nida. This Russian detachment was strongly supported on its right wing. The circumstances, however, were such that our rear guards hampered the conduct of our offensive. The result was that the enemy taking advantage of this circumstance moved forward along the railroad.

"Little by little we observed that the Germans in their retreat were moving in a northerly direction and that an important force of the enemy was being concentrated along the front between Thorn and Stulp. This movement seemed seriously our right wing and the communication of this with its base."

"At the same time we learned that certain important highways in Silesia which led to the front on which our other armies were in position were being strongly protected by Austrian troops brought from Galicia, and that the forces were in turn supported in part by German troops. The highways in question were further, moreover, strongly fortified, particularly in the vicinity of Czenstochowa and Cracow."

"This new military situation made it incumbent upon us to put into effect a partial modification of the dispositions of our men along our northern front. This change was effected under the protection of the supports to our right wing, previously mentioned. These supporting forces were concentrated in a series of ferocious attacks in the vicinity of Wloclawek, Kutno, and Lenczyca. The Russian resistance was broken, and the enemy was permitted to advance together the forces necessary to check the German offensive movement undertaken in the vicinity of Thorn and Stulp."

"After these occurrences the Germans for a period of several days endeavored stubbornly to drive us from the positions held by our right wing, which rested on the River Vistula."

"On November 19, after unbelievable efforts and enormous sacrifices, the enemy succeeded in penetrating our front. The success was once followed by the drive of a German avalanche into the opening thus made, the forces of the enemy began making their way in the direction of Stulp, Thorn, Koluszki, Tuszyn, and Troszyn. Entering our right wing and our forces in the vicinity of Lodz and to the west of this city, the Germans attacked with great energy, and the Russian forces were forced to retreat."

"Furthermore, on November 23 strong German columns making their way to the east of the River Warta already were in the direction of Lodz. In spite of these conditions, our troops continued to fight with increasing energy. In the region to the north of Lodz our forces repulsed the frontal attacks of the Germans, inflicting on them heavy losses."

"Two detachments of Russian reserves, thrown against the forces of the enemy in the region of Tuszyn and Rogow, by their energetic action were successful in compelling the enemy first to desist from his offensive movement against our rear positions and later to take the German columns, which are thrown into disorder."

"In the meantime our troops returning to the fight along the front between Lodz and Skierdiewice were successful in regaining possession of Stulp and Brzezino, thus severing the lines of communication of the German troops who had withdrawn toward Rogow and Tuszyn. In the morning there was brought about a short pause in the fighting."

"On November 23 an important and general situation began to develop distinctly favorable for us along the front between Zolunska Wola, Szalek and Lodz. The Germans, having sustained enormous losses, found themselves under the necessity of retiring and taking up positions in new trenches."

"As to the German reserves they were all sent to Stulp to succor the forces cut off by our detachments. These German troops, on the front between Rogow and Tuszyn, were retreating their steps in the direction of Brzezino. At the same time the Germans by ferocious attacks were endeavoring to prevent us from the wing a last energetic detachment around their base which had been concentrated at Brzezino."

"On November 26 the Germans made an unbelievable effort. By a series of repeated night attacks they succeeded in winning their way to the town of Stulp. In this action, according to their own official admission, they sustained unheard of losses, which were due to the fact that they had to cut a way for themselves, while subjected all the time to our fire. The movements of our troops compelled them to retire into a restricted area. The losses in the divisions of the enemy which took part in this driving in of our front and the subsequent operations were so heavy that these divisions had to be withdrawn completely, not only from the fighting, but from the front."

"The fighting, nevertheless, continued. According to the report of prisoners belonging to other divisions, German companies of an original strength of from 250 to 280 men were so cut up that at the end of the day they were reduced to no more than seventy men."

## RATION ESTABLISHED FOR PEOPLE OF LIEGE

**26 Pounds of Bread a Week Supply for Household of Six Persons.**

**Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.**  
PARIS, Dec. 8.—A Brussels correspondent of the Temps says that a certain food ration has been established for the people of Liege. A household consisting of six persons receives twenty-six pounds of bread a week. There is a fair supply of food, the Germans having requisitioned all the fodder.

The correspondent says the Germans buried a priest alive at Hermee, leaving his head above the ground. Fortunately a farm hand passed a quarter of an hour later and freed the priest.

The Germans are constructing defenses, especially in the direction of Vise, on the route of a possible retreat. It is noticeable that houses in Belgium with telephone connections have not been burned.

## OFF TO FEED BELGIANS.

**Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.**  
LONDON, Dec. 8.—The Belgian Relief Commission has received a telegram from Rotterdam announcing that the Rhodanese have started for the districts in Belgium to which they were assigned, and that delegates appointed by Cardinal Mercier have left on the same mission.

Food supplies for the entire country are on the way, and the commission is straining its head to the point of a possible retreat. The commission issued to-day a report on the state of the country. It is hoped that the grain will reach Liege within forty-eight hours. In the meantime that city is entirely destitute of bread.

The commission issued to-day a further explanation of the distress in Belgium and of the extent to which the starving population of the country depends on America for help.

## NEW REPORT ON ATROCITIES.

LONDON, Dec. 8.—The sixth report by the Belgian Commission investigating charges of atrocities against the Germans was issued to-day. The report is devoted chiefly to military proclamations issued by the German Generals in command of occupied districts. The report also replies to the statement signed by twenty-two professors of German universities asserting that the Germans were guilty of no atrocities.

Referring to the orders of Gen. von Emmich, Gen. von Buelow, Gen. von der Goltz and other German commanders the report says that these orders authorized and permitted wholesale reprisals upon the population and continued to do so.

"These orders, committed every where, show the application of a pre-conceived system, putting into practice instructions which made the enemy operating in Belgium a host of barbarians and a band of incendiaries."

## RUSSIA'S REVENUES UP DESPITE VODKA

**War Expenditure to End of October Was \$892,500,000—Next Year's Estimates.**

## NEW TAXES ARE ORDERED.

**Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.**

PETROGRAD, Dec. 8.—The Finance Minister's memorandum annexed to the budget estimates for 1915 states that the maintenance of the financial equilibrium was almost an unsolvable problem, owing to the sudden immense demands of the war and the reduction of revenues through the prohibition of spirits.

The position compelled the increase of existing taxes, the creation of new taxes and the postponement of various credits intended for internal improvements. However, though the revenue declined for the first nine months of the year, it has since shown a permanent upward trend which has inspired hope that the havoc in the country's economic life will not be as grave as was feared.

The ordinary revenues to the end of October were \$522,500,000. The Government already has met various issues of bonds and Treasury obligations and an issue of \$60,000,000 held in Great Britain. It was announced recently that further war expenditure will be met by other credit operations.

The draft of receipts and expenditures for next year gives the surplus of ordinary receipts for the year over ordinary expenditures at \$1,234,524 rubles (\$4,675,000), against the similar surplus of \$2,645,956 rubles (\$13,122,875) for 1914.

The ordinary receipts for 1915 are given as \$690,168,314 rubles, as against \$572,162,423 rubles for 1914, and extraordinary receipts at \$54,200,100 rubles, as against \$1,499,925 for 1914, giving total estimated receipts for the year 1915 of \$2,344,384,114 rubles (\$11,174,207), against \$1,814,063,398 rubles (\$13,059,358) for 1914.

The ordinary expenditures for 1915 are placed at \$3,787,814,461 rubles, as against \$3,000,000,000 for 1914, and extraordinary expenditures at \$55,493,953 rubles, as against \$30,045,881 rubles for 1914, giving total estimated expenditures for 1915 of \$3,843,308,414 rubles (\$18,674,207), against \$3,034,109,279 rubles (\$13,066,248,691) for 1914.

The memorandum of the Minister of Finance remarks that "by the will of the Czar, who is anxious to see his people prosper, the Government has decided to reduce one of its most important resources, namely, the Government sale of alcohol, but however much the disappearance of this resource is regretted, it must be met by the Treasury, be convinced that the creative power of a sober Russian people, applied to the enormous natural riches of the country, will enable future budgets to be based on new principles."

## ITALY TO RAISE TAXES.

**Minister Asks Parliament for Authority to Float Loan Also.**

**Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.**

ROME, Dec. 8.—Signor Carcano, Minister of the Treasury, explained the financial situation in the Chamber to-day. He said that last year's budget closed with a surplus of 10,000,000 lire (\$3,000,000). Signor Carcano pointed out that the taxes for six months of the present year had diminished about 70,000,000 lire (\$21,000,000). Meanwhile, 1,000,000,000 lire (\$300,000,000) for war preparations had been added to the budget, and further expenditure is necessary which will increase the taxation.

The Minister said he expects the increased taxation to be met by the people, but that it will not be sufficient to cover the expenses. He therefore asked the unconditional authorization of Parliament for a resort to loans.

Signor Carcano was applauded when he declared his necessity for the great economies in the future with the object of averting deficits and the consolidation of the national finances.

## URGES NO PAY FOR DEPUTIES.

**Paris Paper Would Amend Bill Giving One-Fifth of Pay.**

**Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.**  
PARIS, Dec. 8.—Deputy Brousse has given notice that he will propose an amendment to Deputy Hesse's bill, the amendment providing that one-fifth of their salary shall be retained from all State salaries when these salaries exceed 5,000 francs (\$1,000) annually.

M. Hesse's proposal was that the deputies should surrender one-fifth of their salaries to the State for the benefit of victims of the war.

It will be remembered that the Chamber of Deputies, when M. Clemenceau was Premier, voted to increase the salaries of the deputies to 10,000 francs (\$2,000) annually. Since that time "Qu" for "Quinze" has been a favorite nickname for deputies.

In Liege, which has been constantly besieged, the sale in the Chamber of Deputies of one-third of the salaries of its members with the silence of the French Deputies, makes this comment on M. Hesse's proposal.

"Why from January 12 there have been victims of the war since August 1. Why one-fifth? Our Deputies are less generous for our sons than the Canadians. Why not return to their total salary during the war, in view of the fact that there is no session at present?"

## EARL ANNESLEY KILLED IN AIR.

LONDON, Dec. 8.—Earl Annesley and Lieut. Bevir were shot and killed while flying over Ostend in an airplane on November 5, according to a message received by Countess Annesley to-day.

The official British press bureau announced on November 11 that Lieut. Bevir, with Sub-Lieut. Earl Annesley as observer, left Eastchurch for a flight over Ostend on November 5 and that no word had been received of them since. A search had been made for them without success, and it was believed that both probably had been lost.

## RESULT IN POLAND INDECISIVE.

**Complete Victory Not Claimed in Austrian Report.**

VIENNA, via Rome, Dec. 8.—The following official statement was issued here to-day:

"The fighting in the Russian war theatre is not yet decided. The Austro-Hungarian and German troops in the district southwest of Petrokov, Poland, attacked the Russian troops advancing northward across Nowa Radomsk and forced them to retreat."

"In West Galicia important battles are proceeding, but no result has been reached. The Austro-Hungarian troops captured 1,500 Russians in that territory on Sunday."

"In the Carpathians the battles continue, and from some points the enemy has withdrawn strong forces behind the mountains."

## German Offensive Again Checked, Says Paris Report

**New Attacks in Flanders and in the Argonne Repulsed After Severe Fighting—Saint-Eloi, South of Ypres, Bombarded by Kaiser's Troops.**

## ALLIES' LINES FIRM AFTER VIOLENT ONSLAUGHT

**Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.**

PARIS, Dec. 8.—The Germans resumed their offensive in Flanders to-day and also in the Argonne district. At the same time the Allies continued to attack at various points in the line and the result of the forward movements by both sides was the most severe fighting in several days.

St. Eloi, a hamlet south of Ypres, was the objective of the Germans, but the allied troops held their ground and finally drove the enemy back. At night fall, when the fighting resumed in violence, no impression had been made on the Franco-British lines, despite the large number of German troops which made the attack.

The official communiqué issued by the War Office at 10:30 o'clock to-night referred briefly to St. Eloi engagements, reporting merely the success of the Allies in repulsing the attack, and made note of the fact that in the Argonne forest and east of the Argonne ridge very severe fighting had occurred throughout the day. The issue at that point remained in doubt and a resumption of activity there is looked for in the morning. The official communiqué to-night says:

In Belgium a violent German attack on St. Eloi, south of Ypres, has been repulsed.

The fighting continues to be very fierce in the Argonne forest and east of the Argonne ridge.

There is no other incident of note reported.

In the official report given out in Berlin to-day the German General Staff, in contradiction of French reports that the Allies had gained in the Argonne, asserted that the German troops had captured Malmout east of Verdun, that no French attack had been made in that region "for a long time past" and that the Germans were continually gaining ground themselves.

The afternoon communiqué, referring to yesterday's fighting, told of the resumption of German activity along the Yser and also at Ypres. Artillery engaged principally in the engagements in this quarter and the new French guns again demonstrated their superiority. The War Office gave further details of the capture of Verdun, describing the arduous work involved in bringing troops to a position for the final assault, after long days of sapping and mining.

In the Argonne yesterday several of the German artillery batteries were destroyed in long range fighting and the Allies gained ground by infantry attacks in La Courbe wood, part of the Argonne, and in the forest of La Preire.

The afternoon communiqué follows: During the day of the 7th the enemy has been more active than the day before in the region of the Yser and in the neighborhood of Ypres. Our artillery has answered back with success.

In the region of Arras a very brilliant attack has given us possession, as we have announced, of Vermelles and Raitore. Vermelles has been for nearly two months the scene of desperate fighting. The enemy had taken footing there on October 15, and on October 21 to October 25 succeeded in forcing us out of that position. On the 25th of October our sapping and mining operations brought us back until we were again in close contact, and on the 1st of December we recaptured the park and chateau of Vermelles.

In the region of the Aisne and in Champagne there have been some artillery engagements, and our heavy artillery has scored several victories of the enemy.

In the Argonne we have gained a little ground in the La Grande wood and in the northwest of Fontenoy-Mousson in the La Preire forest. Along the rest of the front there is nothing to report.

It is unofficially reported here that the British troops have made an important advance from Ypres and have captured Passchendaele, seven miles to the north-east and half way to Roulers, an important point on the line of German communications in Flanders. For several days the British have been making tentative movements in that direction and now, it is asserted, they have gained the ground and are holding the town in considerable force.

It is believed here that the counter attacks launched yesterday and to-day by the Germans will not cause any change in the German plan of offensive, a movement that should exert pressure all along the battle front, never partaking of the nature of an assault but steadily threatening the gains in force until it was bound to break through at one point or another. Military experts here look for a continuation of such tactics and also for some more direct attacks characterized by them for three days past.

## EXPECT EARLY RETREAT.

**Correspondents Say Recovery of Belgium Has Begun.**

**Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.**  
LONDON, Dec. 8.—A correspondent of the Daily Mail in northern France telegraphs:

Germans continue to bombard Ypres, Neuport, Perwez and smaller places in the vicinity, but their object is a mystery. There is no earthly chance of their achieving their purpose, as the only effect which further bombardment can have.

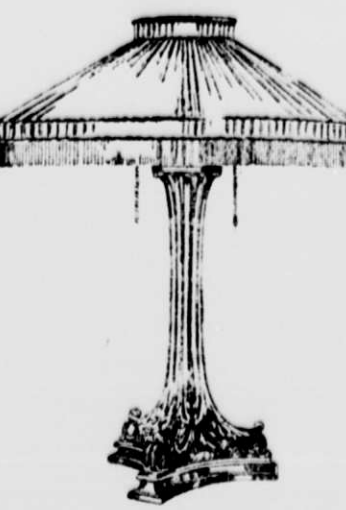
"The most probable motive for the continued bombardment is the wish to mark the retreat in the German troops. The Germans are undoubtedly restricting the forces which constitute their right wing. This change is in progress. What it portends remains to be seen. The general opinion here is that it means a lessening of the forces on this front."

"There are strong reasons for believing that Germany will not trouble us in the Yser region much longer. The withdrawal at first may not be for a very great distance, but that they will withdraw at least to the first of their three lines of defense in Belgium is highly probable."

Another correspondent of the Daily Mail in northern France, telegraphing to similar effect, says:

The recovery of Belgium is beginning. The narrow strip of land held with such

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## SUBSTITUTE FOR SALTPETRE

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**Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.**

LONDON, Dec. 8.—The correspondent of the Morning Post at Bern, Switzerland, telegraphs the following: "Germany, we are admitting, that she cannot import Chilean saltpetre, professes to have found a chemical substitute which answers excellently for ammunition manufacturing purposes, although it is much more expensive."

## 34 DIE BY FIRE IN WRECK.

**French Shell Sets Taube Afire Over Bar-le-Duc.**

**Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.**  
PARIS, Dec. 8.—Three German aviators were burned to death at Bar-le-Duc to-day when a well directed French 75 millimeter shell struck the Taube in which they were flying over the place. The machine caught fire as it fell. When the wreckage was searched three Prussian helmets were found. The bodies of the aviators were not recognizable.

The discovery of the helmets seems to prove that the Taube carry a crew of three men instead of two, as had been previously supposed.

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